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COUNTRY

USSR

SUBJECT

Comparison of US Medicine with Soviet Medicine/

Soviet Medical Publications

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DATE OF IN

DATE DISTR. 29

NO. OF PAGES

NO. OF ENCLS.

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

25X1

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US Medicine as Compared to Soviet Medicine

1. Soviet and US medicine are two quantities which are difficult to compare. Soviet medicine has been developed along different lines than US medicine. Even prior to the revolution of 1917, the development of public medicine in the USSR was widespread; however, it was administered by city, county or local governmental units. After 1917, control of public health was centralized under the Ministry of Health in Moscow. Soviet medicine lacks, of course, private enterprise or initiative in some respects, which is characteristic of US medicine. All medical projects in the USSR are financed by public funds and must be approved by the Ministry of Health in Moscow. In the US, there are large hospitals, medical research centers, clinics, etc, all financed, for the most part, by private funds which are

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Approved For Release 2009/07/16	: CIA-RDP82-00047R0002002100	007-8
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constantly developing new medical techniques or discovering new cures. There 25X1 were many projects in the USSR which were abandoned because of lack of funds. There are no Rockefeller foundations in the USSR to provide private funds for medical research. There are many positive quantities in the Soviet medical program, however. Soviet medicine serves all the population and is not restricted to only those who are in a position to pay for medical services. Prior to 1936 all medical services in the USSR were entirely free. After 1936, a small fee was charged to each patient, but this was paid for by State health insurance. The physician in the US devotes entirely too little time to the diagnosis of a patient. He is more content to rely on X-rays, laboratory tests, etc, rather a physician in the US than act as a diagnostician. treats the disease rather than the diseased individual.

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Medical Training

2.

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In the USSR, the standards of medical training were raised after 1935 because the Communists realized that they must be more selective in the training of their physicians than they had been prior to that time.

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excellent feature of the Soviet medical program is that they require each medical student after his third year of training to spend his summers in State hospitals and clinics to obtain additional experience. In the US this is not required. A US medical student does not enter a hospital until he has completed his medical school training. In the US, a total of six years is required to complete a medical education whereas in the USSR a complete medical education can be obtained in five years.

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Medical Publications

- There is a voluminous amount of medical journals and brochures published in the USSR. The volume is so great that 25X1 there was a shortage of paper for the printing of our institute's publications. In order to understand the Soviet medical publication system it is necessary to understand the medical organizational system within the USSR. The entire medical program of the USSR is under the control and supervision of the Medical Ministry with headquarters in Moscow. Its headquarters is divided into six departments which are:
 - (a) Healing Department
 - Sanitation and Prophylacic Department (b)
 - Administrative Department (c)
 - (d) Medical Education Department
 - Pharmaceutical Department
 - Guardian of Mothers and Children Department

The Sanitary and Prophylicic Department is responsible for publishing and distributing all brochures, pamphleus concerning the prevention, treatment and cure of all illnesses including cancer, scarlet fever, heart disease, pneumonia, etc. Each of the other five departments also published various types of medical brochures pertaining to their work. Directly under the Medical Ministry are the 16 Republics of the USSR, which have an identical medical organization such as exists at Moscow. Directly under the 16 Republics is the Medical Ministry of the individual county within the Republic which also has six departments to administer the health program, and, of course, each published its own medical

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brochures. In addition to the publications of the Medical Ministry at Moscow and the Medical Ministry of the Republics and the counties, the medical institutes, medical societies and medical publishing houses each publish their own medical journals. There were many publications in the USSR

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(a) Publication of the Saratov Institute for the Study of Plague

"Professor Kulescha's Method of Culture of the Bacillus of Leprosy - 1933"

(b) Publication of the Second All-Russian Congress of Pathology

"Pathology and Pathogensis of Endemic Goiter in the Karajaijev Autonomous Area (North Caucasas)"

(c) Publication of the Kuban State Institute of Medicine (also known as the Krasnodar Medical Institute)

"Cancer Threat and Registry of Tumors"

"Incidence of Tumors in the City of Krasnodar from 1920 - 1935"

"Research in Pathology of the Cardiovascular System and Adrenals in Animals Subjected to Toxic Effects of Various Tobacco and Tobacco Fumes"

"Classification of Thymomas"

"Illness and Death of Professor P P Avrorov - A Clinical and Pathological Analysis"

(d) Publication of the Third Krasnodar Clinic and Hospital

"Leprosy Research in the USSR"

"Development and Present Status of Pathology and Pathological Anatomy in the Kuban Area (14 years survey)"

"Contemporary Trends in the Teaching of Pathology"

(e) Publication of the Conference of Military Surgeons in the Krasnodar Area

"Histopathology of Frostbite - May 1942"

"Characteristic Features of the Pathology of Modern War Injuries - May 1942"

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